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## Chancellor fires warning shot at diesel drivers - RAC statement following Spring Budget 2017

RAC chief engineer David Bizley said: “The Chancellor has fired a warning shot at diesel owners and drivers, [with the suggestion in the Budget document that a new tax regime covering diesel vehicles could be announced before the end of the year.](#)\* This uncertainty is bound to be of concern to private and business motorists alike, who will be wanting urgent clarity on just what the Government plan to do. The RAC will take a leading role in representing motorists when the consultation goes live.

“We welcome more funds to tackle urban congestion – not least because congestion goes hand-in-hand with poor air quality, so tackling one can help the other. However, we’ll need to look carefully at how councils will be expected to bid for money. What we certainly don’t want to see is a situation where local authorities have to take part in an expensive, protracted process simply to have the funds they need to sort out well known bottlenecks on our town and city centre roads.

“We’re disappointed however that more funding wasn’t announced on preventative road maintenance – this is a missed opportunity given the dire state of many local roads. The RAC Pothole Index showed that the number of pothole-related breakdowns has doubled in the last ten years, and remain a constant source of frustration for motorists.”

*\* See section 6.4 of the main Budget document*

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The press office email address is [press.office@rac.co.uk](mailto:press.office@rac.co.uk) and media centre is at [media.rac.co.uk](http://media.rac.co.uk). **Please note:** the press office is unable to help with individual customer enquiries - please visit the [RAC contacts page](#) to find the right contact.

## About the RAC

The RAC, an iconic UK brand, provides complete peace of mind to nearly 14 million UK private and business drivers, whatever their motoring needs. As well as its premium nationwide breakdown assistance service – with an expert branded patrol workforce attending more than two million breakdowns every year – it offers a wide range of market-leading products across insurance, legal services, vehicle inspections and service, maintenance and repair. Included in this is the first-of-its-kind nationwide Mobile Mechanics service which brings the garage to homes and workplaces.

At the forefront of new solutions for business fleets and consumers, the RAC’s breakdown service is electric-ready with mobile EV charging technology and can be called on using [myRAC](#) – the all-in-one route planner, fuel finder and breakdown reporting app.

Visit the [RAC website](#).

## Contacts



### **RAC Press Office**

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